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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/489,241	01/21/2000	Shiu John Luo	5852-07-LAV	5600

29668 7590 03/19/2002

PFIZER, INC.  
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MORRIS PLAINS, NJ 07950

EXAMINER
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CORBIN, ARTHUR L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1761	10

DATE MAILED: 03/19/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

RNF-10

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 09/489,241	Applicant(s) Luo Et Al
	Examiner ARTHUR L. CORBIN	Group Art Unit 1761

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication .
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

#### Status

- Responsive to communication(s) filed on 5-7-02
- This action is **FINAL**.
- Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- Claim(s) 5-12 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) 4-6 8-10-12 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- Claim(s) 1-3 5-7-9 is/are rejected.
- Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is  approved  disapproved.
- The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- All  Some\*  None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
- received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.
- received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Attachment(s)

- Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_  Interview Summary, PTO-413
- Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892  Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948  Other \_\_\_\_\_

#### Office Action Summary

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-3 and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reynolds (WO 98/40406) in view of Muhler (3,590,120).

Reynolds disclose a sugar-free chewing gum including gum base and 1-50% CPP-ACP, which promotes dental hygiene and remineralization of tooth enamel in individual's who chew the gum. It would have been obvious to include 1-6% sodium bicarbonate in the chewing gum of Reynolds in order to remove dental plaque from the teeth of individuals chewing the gum since 1-5% sodium bicarbonate is a conventional dental plaque removal agent in chewing gum, as evidenced by Muhler (col.2, lines 47-58), and since dental hygiene is a goal which Reynolds seeks to achieve for individuals chewing his gum.

Applicant's claimed range of gum base is conventional for chewing gums.

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3 and 7-9 submitted January 7, 2002 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

4. Claims 4-6 and 10-12 stand withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 6.

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5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arthur Corbin whose telephone number is (703) 308-3852. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday 10:00 am to 7:30 pm, and alternate Mondays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Milton Cano can be reached on (703) 308-3929. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9310 for regular communications and 703-872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.

Examiner Corbin/ng  
March 19, 2002



ARTHUR L. CORBIN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
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